

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for producing an envelope imprinted at least in part on an inside or outside portion of the envelope comprising the steps of:

(a) imprinting on a material web by at least one print unit to form an imprinted material web;

(b) stretching the imprinted material web to correct registration inaccuracy; and

(c) passing the imprinted material web to other stations of an envelope machine for producing the envelope.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

(a) providing the material web with print marks when the material web is being imprinted;

(b) detecting the location of the print marks on the material web with at least one sensor; and

(c) subsequently drawing a portion of the material web by a pair of tension rollers having a speed of rotation/angular velocity regulated using control signals of said at least one sensor to impart an additional tensile stress to the material web portion to cause stretching of the material web portion for any registration equalization that might be necessary.

3. A device for producing an envelope imprinted at least in part on an inside or outside portion of the envelope comprising:

(a) at least one print unit for imprinting on a material web to form an imprinted material web having print marks at a selected location;

(b) at least one sensor for detecting the location of the print marks; and

(c) a pair of controllable tension rollers for stretching the material web for tension and for any necessary registration equalization.

4. The device according to claim 3, further comprising a cutting device having a cutting blade at a reference location.

5. The device according to claim 3, further comprising a printing station having a central cylinder, said at least one sensor being arranged between said central cylinder and said pair of tension rollers.

6. The device according to claim 3, wherein said pair of tension rollers is arranged downstream from said at least one sensor.

7. The device according to claim 5, wherein said pair of tension rollers define a first end point of a material web piece that serves as a stretchable material web and said printing station defines a second end point of the material web piece.